

The North Carolina Division of Child Development & Early Education (DCDEE)

PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT BIRTH THROUGH FIVE (PDG B-5)

STATE-WIDE BIRTH TO 3 PROGRAM FEASIBILITY AND COST STUDY

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Questions	Answers
<p>Q1. Cost Study – page 6: When the RFA describes a “state model for high-quality early learning programs for birth through age three,” ...</p> <p>A) What would that entail?</p> <p>B) Would it be appropriate to estimate costs to increase capacity in existing licensed center and home-based programs, work with other entities to create new programs entirely (e.g., Early Head Start or school districts)? Or is the intent to create a new model that utilizes unlicensed family, friends, and neighbor care, learning pods, or maternal leave, etc.?</p>	<p>A1 – A. DCDEE is looking to create a program designed to prioritize children birth through three most at risk for negative impacts of social determinants of health, Adverse Childhood Experiences, and for lower school readiness outcomes. The model will address barriers to accessing culturally responsive early care and education by developing equitable eligibility requirements, site qualifications and requirements, classroom environment and program requirements, teacher qualifications and compensation, and program evaluation and monitoring protocols. The program design will need to be able to be implemented state-wide, much like the NC Pre-Kindergarten program. This includes the creation of a business model, needed program administrative supports and financial recommendations.</p> <p>A1 – B. DCDEE is seeking the development of a cost model and proposed phased financing approach that might use blended funding models and/or alternative funding strategies for this new scalable program. Enhancing the business, quality, and physical space capacities of currently licensed child care centers and family child care homes to increase the supply of birth through three care for this model are acceptable and shall be the focus of this project. Methods such as home visiting programs, learning pods, unlicensed family, friends, and neighbor care or similar programs do not meet the requirements of this project and will not be considered for funding.</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>Q2. FNIR – page 3: Our interpretation of the “Federal Requirements on indirect cost rates and calculations according to 2 C.F.R. 200.414” section is that we are obligated to use the federally negotiated F&A rate, not the de minimis 10% F&A rate. Is this interpretation correct, or can DCDEE instruct us to use the lower rate?</p>	<p>A2. That is a correct interpretation. Current established federally negotiated indirect cost rates must be accepted; in addition, any entities that do not have a current negotiated rate may elect to charge a de minimis rate of 10%.</p>
<p>Q3. Legislative Strategy – pages 7 and 8: Would it be correct to assume that the legislative strategy would be designed to inform legislator knowledge or would it be focused on a legislative agenda or set of recommendations regarding a specific piece of legislation?</p>	<p>A3. The purpose of the legislative strategy is to inform legislator knowledge and to provide a set of recommendations for addressing current needs for the supply and quality of infant and toddler care. The legislative strategy must show a connection to the NC Early Childhood Action Plan and recommendations in response to the Leandro vs. State of North Carolina case addressing early childhood education from the WestEd Leandro report and the Governor’s Commission on Access to Sound Basic Education.</p>